

STATEWIDE ISSUES

Controlling the Growth of State Government

During the past year, the Administration has intensified its effort to limit the growth of State government by imposing a hiring freeze on State employment and eliminating more than 6,000 positions that were vacant at the end of the last fiscal year. The hiring freeze will continue through this fiscal year. The Governor's Budget also proposes that more than 1,900 additional positions be eliminated as part of the specific program reductions proposed in this budget. These recent actions are in addition to the elimination of 4,100 vacant positions in 2000-01, and 2,500 vacant positions in 2001-02.

Summary Schedule 4 in the Appendices shows that much of the State workforce, more than 40 percent, is not under the direct control of the Administration—that is, staffing can increase with or without the approval of the Administration. Included within the remainder of the State workforce are the more than 65,000 positions in the departments whose primary function is to

ensure the safety of the public: Department of Corrections, the California Youth Authority, the California Highway Patrol, and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The Administration recognizes the important mission of the public safety agencies. Accordingly, the Administration has been careful to ensure that these agencies have an adequate workforce to respond to unexpected crises throughout its efforts to control the growth of the State workforce. While the overall workforce under the Administration's control has declined by more than 1,800, the number of positions in the departments whose primary mission is public safety has increased by 1 percent over the past year and 7.5 percent since 1999-00.

This Administration will be continuing its efforts to limit the size of the State workforce by seeking efficiencies and identifying functions and activities that the State should no longer be performing.

Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) Staff—As a direct result of budget reduction proposals and the associated staff



reductions and potential layoffs, DPA will experience increased grievance and appeal workload. To meet this additional workload, the Administration proposes 14.5 positions and \$1.7 million General Fund in 2002-03 and \$1.8 million General Fund in 2003-04.

Health and Dental Benefits for Annuitants—The Governor's Budget includes an increase of \$83.9 million General Fund (from \$576.6 million to \$660.5 million) for vested annuitant health and dental benefits in 2003-04 due to health premium increases and enrollment growth.

Advisory Boards and Commissions—The Administration directs all advisory boards and commissions to limit their meetings to one annually.

